

VIII.—*Description of a new Cichlid Fish from Portuguese East Africa.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

A SMALL series of fishes obtained by Mr. C. M. F. Swynnerton in the Idunda River, a limestone-stream flowing into the lower Buzi River, in Portuguese Gazaland (altitude about 100 feet), and presented by him to the British Museum, consists of examples of *Barbus decipiens*, Blgr., *Tilapia shirana*, Blgr., *T. melanopleura*, A. Dum., and a new species of *Tilapia*, here described.

*Tilapia Swynnertoni.*

Depth of body  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times in total length, length of head 3 times. Snout obtuse, with straight or convex profile, as long as the eye, which a little exceeds interorbital width and is contained  $3\frac{1}{3}$  times in length of head; mouth extending to below anterior border of eye or a little beyond; maxillary exposed at the end; lips rather thick; 3 series of tricuspid teeth and an outer series of rather large bicuspid teeth (40 to 42 in the upper jaw), the cusps subequal and very obtuse; 3 or 4 series of scales on the cheek; large scales on the opercle. Gill-rakers short, 8 on lower part of anterior arch. Dorsal XV 9-10; spines increasing in length to the last, which measures nearly half length of head; longest soft rays  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of head. Anal III 8-9; third spine shorter than last dorsal. Pectoral barely  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of head, not extending to origin of anal. Ventral reaching origin of anal or a little beyond. Caudal rounded. Scales ctenoid, 29-31  $\frac{2\frac{1}{2}-3}{10-11}$ ; lateral lines  $\frac{20-22}{10-11}$ . Dark olive-brown, with ill-defined black cross-bars; a black vertical bar below the anterior half of the eye and a black opercular spot; fins grey; male with two or three round yellow spots on the anal.

Total length 95 mm.

Described from three specimens.

This species bears a great resemblance to *Hyplochromis Maffati*, Casteln. (*Chromis philander*, M. Weber), but differs in the dentition and in the larger eye.

IX.—*Descriptions of Three new Freshwater Fishes discovered by Mr. G. L. Bates in South Cameroon.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

*Synodontis Batesii.*

Depth of body  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{1}{3}$  times in the total length, length of head 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  times. Head a little longer than broad, rugose

above; snout obtusely pointed, as long as postocular part of head; eye supero-lateral, its diameter  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in length of head,  $1\frac{2}{3}$  to  $2\frac{1}{4}$  times in interorbital width; præmaxillary teeth forming a short and broad band; movable mandibular teeth not half diameter of eye, 30 to 40 in number; maxillary barbel not distinctly margined, extending about to middle of pectoral spine; mandibular barbels with obtuse or tubercular branches, outer at least twice as long as inner and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of head. Gill-openings not extending downwards beyond root of pectoral spine. Occipito-nuchal shield rough like the occiput, obtusely tectiform, not or but slightly longer than broad, the posterior processes rounded. Humeral process rugose, acutely pointed, extending as far back as occipito-nuchal process. Skin without villosities. Dorsal 17; spine nearly as long as head, striated, strongly serrated in front, with a few very feeble serræ behind. Adipose dorsal rather small, not longer than its distance from the rayed dorsal. Anal III 8-9. Pectoral strongly serrated on outer side, still more strongly on inner. Caudal fin deeply notched, crescentic. Caudal peduncle longer than deep. Brown, blotched and marbled with darker, with three broad irregular dark bands, the first below the dorsal fin, the second below the adipose, the third in front of the caudal fin; fins whitish, with round black spots.

Total length 90 mm.

Several specimens from the Ja River.

The smallest species of the genus. The first specimens received were thought by me to be young *S. obesus*, Blgr., a species which has not yet been discovered in Cameroon.

### *Clarias longior.*

Depth of body 8 to 9 times in total length, length of head 5 to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  times. Head extremely depressed, once and  $\frac{1}{4}$  as long as broad, smooth; occipital process very short, pointed; frontal fontanelle knife-shaped, about 3 times as long as broad; occipital fontanelle smaller, in advance of occipital process; eye very small,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times in length of snout, 5 or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  times in interorbital width, which equals width of mouth and  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head; band of præmaxillary teeth 4 times as long as broad; vomerine teeth granular, forming a curved band which is as broad as the præmaxillary band; nasal barbel  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of head, maxillary once and  $\frac{1}{4}$  to once and  $\frac{1}{2}$ , outer mandibular once, inner mandibular  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Gill-rakers very few, 12 on anterior arch. Clavicles concealed under the skin. Dorsal 80, its distance from occipital process  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of

head, its distance from the caudal equal to diameter of eye. Anal 70-73, nearly reaching the caudal. Pectoral  $\frac{3}{5}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of head, the spine smooth and about  $\frac{2}{3}$  the length of the fin. Ventral once and  $\frac{2}{3}$  to once and  $\frac{3}{4}$  as distant from base of caudal and from end of snout. Caudal  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of head. Dark brown above, whitish beneath.

Total length 225 mm.

One specimen from the Kribi River and one from the Lobi River.

*Eleotris kribensis.*

Body cylindrical or a little compressed, its depth 4 to 5 times in total length; length of head 3 to  $3\frac{1}{3}$  times in total length. Head broader than deep, naked; snout broad, rounded, as long as or a little longer than the eye, the diameter of which is 4 to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  times in length of head and equal to or a little less than interorbital width; lower jaw projecting; maxillary extending to below anterior third or centre of eye; no canine teeth; no præopercular spine. Dorsals VI, I 8-9, well separated from each other, longest rays not longer than head. Anal I 7, opposite to second dorsal. Pectoral  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of head, a little longer than ventral. Caudal rounded, a little shorter than head. Caudal peduncle once and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to once and  $\frac{2}{3}$  as long as deep. Scales smooth on the nape, strongly ciliated on the body, 32 to 35 in a longitudinal series, 12 between origin of dorsal and anal. Yellowish to brown, dotted with darker, with or without five or six ill-defined dark cross-bands; a blackish bar at the root of the caudal fin; fins brown or blackish and white-edged in males, whitish with blackish spots in females.

Total length 50 mm.

Numerous specimens from the Kribi River.

X.—*The Atractylis coccinea* of T. S. Wright.

By E. S. RUSSELL, M.A.

THIS hydroid was described by Wright (Ann. Nat. Hist. ser. 3, viii. (1861) p. 130) in the following words:—

“*Atractylis coccinea*, n. sp.

“Polypidom creeping, widely reticulate. Polyp fusiform, set at an obtuse angle to its stalk, rich crimson or pink, with eight alternating tentacles, four long and four short.”